

**PUTATIVE FATHER REGISTRY
REGISTRATION FORM**

INSTRUCTIONS

READ AND FOLLOW CAREFULLY:

- A. Under Indiana law, a "putative father" is a man who may be a child's father, but who is not married to the child's mother on or before the date that the child is born; or who has not established paternity of the child in a court proceeding before the filing of an adoption petition for the child.
- B. If you believe you may be a putative father, and if you wish to be notified of an adoption proceeding involving a child of whom you are, or may be, the father, you should complete the registration form and return it to the Indiana Putative Father Registry.
- C. It is your responsibility to be sure that the information contained on the form is accurate. Your failure to provide accurate information will result in your not receiving notice of an adoption and you will lose any parental rights you might have in relation to the child.
- D. The address you provide must be an address at which you can actually be contacted. A post office box is not acceptable. If you cannot be contacted at the address you provide, you will not receive notice of an adoption and you will lose any rights you may have had in relation to the child.
- E. **IMPORTANT!** If your address or any other information on the form changes, you must file an amended registration form immediately. Your failure to do so could cause you to lose the opportunity to receive notice of an adoption and to lose any parental rights you may have in relation to the child.
- F. If you do not have an address where you can receive notice of an adoption, you may designate another person as your agent. Service of notice of an adoption upon the agent under Rule 4.1 of the Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure constitutes service of notice upon the putative father. If notice of an adoption may not be served on the agent under Rule 4.1 of the Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure, no further notice of the adoption to the agent or to the putative father is necessary.
- G. **Time is of the essence!** In order for you to receive notice of an adoption, you must register prior to 30 days after the birth of the child or prior to the filing of a petition for adoption, whichever is later. You **MAY** register prior to the birth of the child.
- H. Submit the completed, signed, and notarized form either in person, by facsimile transmission, mail, private courier, or express delivery service to:

Indiana Putative Father Registry
Indiana State Department of Health
2 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

- I. If you have questions about your rights as a putative father, you should consult an attorney immediately.